Appl. No. 10/789,294

Reply to Office action of February 8, 2006

## **Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## **Listing of Claims:**

1. (currently amended) An exercise apparatus comprising:

a first treadle assembly providing a first moving surface, the first treadle assembly arranged to pivot;

a second treadle assembly providing a second moving surface, the second treadle assembly arranged to pivot;

an interconnection assembly operably coupled connecting between the first treadle assembly and the second treadle assembly such that pivotal movement of the first treadle assembly in a first direction causes pivotal movement of the second treadle assembly in a second direction opposite of the first direction; and

at least one resistance element operably coupled with the interconnection assembly.

2. (original) The exercise apparatus of claim 1 wherein:

the first moving surface comprises a first roller and a second roller and an endless belt in rotatable engagement with the first and second roller; and

the second moving surface comprises a third roller and a fourth roller and a second endless belt in rotatable engagement with the third and fourth roller.

3. (original) The exercise apparatus of claim 1 wherein the interconnection assembly comprises:

a rocker arm arranged to pivot about a first pivot point.

- 4. (original) The exercise device of claim 3 wherein the rocker arm comprises a first portion and a second portion to either side of the first pivot point, the first portion coupled with the first treadle assembly and the second portion coupled with the second treadle assembly.
- 5. (original) The exercise device of claim 4, wherein the interconnection assembly further comprises:

a first rod connected between the first portion of the rocker arm and the first treadle assembly; and

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a second rod connected between the second portion of the rocker arm and the second treadle assembly.

- 6. (original) The exercise device of claim 5 wherein the first rod comprises a turnbuckle and the second rod comprises a turnbuckle.
- 7. (withdrawn) The exercise apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a frame structure, and wherein the interconnection assembly comprises:

at least one pulley connected with the frame structure;

at least one cable operably supported between the at least one pulley, the first treadle assembly and the second assembly.

8. (withdrawn) The exercise device of claim 7 wherein the at least one pulley comprises:

at least one first pulley connected with the frame structure above the first treadle assembly; and

at least one second pulley connected with the frame structure above the second treadle assembly.

9. (withdrawn) The exercise device of claim 8 wherein:

the first treadle assembly includes a third pulley;

the second treadle assembly includes a fourth pulley; and

the at least one cable is operably supported by the third pulley and the fourth pulley.

- 10. (withdrawn) The exercise apparatus of claim 1 wherein the at least one resistance element comprises a rotationally elastic member.
- 11. (withdrawn) The exercise apparatus of claim 1 wherein the resistance element comprises a clutch.
- 12. (withdrawn) The exercise apparatus of claim 11 wherein the interconnection assembly comprises a rocker arm adapted to pivot about a pivot axis, and wherein the clutch comprises a first clutch plate operably connected with the rocker arm and a second clutch plate adapted to engage the first clutch plate to provide a resistance between the first and second clutch plates.

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13. (withdrawn) The exercise apparatus of claim 12 wherein the second clutch plate is adjustably arranged to provide an adjustable resistance between the first clutch plate and the second clutch plate.

- 14. (withdrawn) The exercise apparatus of claim 13 wherein the second clutch plate is supported by a pivotable bracket, the pivotable bracket comprising a biasing member to adjust the second clutch.
- 15. (withdrawn) The exercise apparatus of claim 14 further comprising a spring member arranged to urge the second clutch plate against the first clutch plate.
- 16. (withdrawn) The exercise apparatus of claim 3 further comprising a frame and wherein the resistance element comprises:

at least one spring element operably coupled between the frame and the rocker arm.

- 17. (withdrawn) The exercise apparatus of claim 16 wherein the at least one spring is coupled to the rocker arm distally from the first pivot point.
  - 18. (withdrawn) The exercise apparatus of claim 3 further comprising: a frame:

the rocker arm comprises a pivot axle;

the resistance element comprises a pulley operably coupled with the pivot axle; and at least one spring operably coupled between the pulley and the frame.

- 19. (original) The exercise apparatus of claim 3 further comprising: the rocker arm comprises a pivot axle; and a brake operably coupled with the pivot axle.
- 20. (original) The exercise apparatus of claim 19 wherein the brake comprises a fluid filled vessel with an impeller blade.
  - 21. (withdrawn) An exercise apparatus comprising:

a first treadle assembly providing a first moving surface including a first roller and a second roller and an endless belt in rotatable engagement with the first and second roller, the first treadle assembly arranged to pivot;

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a resistance device comprising a first disk and a first strap connected between the first treadle assembly, around the disk, and with the base frame.

22. (withdrawn) An exercise apparatus comprising:

a frame:

a first treadle assembly providing a first moving surface, the first treadle assembly arranged to pivot;

a second treadle assembly providing a second moving surface, the second treadle assembly arranged to pivot;

an interconnection assembly operably coupled between the first treadle assembly and with the second treadle assembly; and

a resistance element coupled with the first treadle and the second treadle, the resistance element comprising a pivotally supported bracket having a first section and a second section to either side of a pivot axle, a first cable coupled between the first treadle assembly and the first side, a first shock coupled between the first section and the frame, a second cable coupled between the second treadle and the second side, and a second shock coupled between the second section and the frame.

- 23. (cancelled)
- 24. (currently amended) An exercise apparatus for a user with a first foot and a second foot, the exercise device comprising:
  - a frame structure;
- a first treadle assembly pivotally connected with the frame structure, the first treadle assembly including an endless belt;
- / a second treadle assembly pivotally connected with the frame structure, the second treadle assembly including a second endless belt;

an interconnection member operably connected with the first treadle assembly and with the second treadle assembly <u>such that pivotal movement of the first treadle assembly in a first direction causes pivotal movement of the second treadle assembly in a second direction opposite of the first direction;</u>

at least one resistance element operably associated with the interconnection member; and

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whereby, during use of the exercise device, a first foot moves rearwardly and downwardly and a second foot moves rearwardly and upwardly.

25.-35. (cancelled)

- 36. (previously presented) The exercise device of claim 2 further comprising at least one motor arranged to rotate the endless belt and the second endless belt.
- 37. (previously presented) The exercise device of claim 24 further comprising at least one motor arranged to rotate the endless belt and the second endless belt.